

REMARKS

Claims 1-5, 11-15, 21-35, 41-50, 61-70 and 81-110 are pending. In this Response, claims 6-10, 16-20, 36-40, 51-60, 71-80 and 111-120 have been cancelled.

I. SECTION 102 REJECTIONS – SUGIMURA ET AL.

Claims 6-7, 16-17, 51, 54-56, 59, 71, 74-76 and 79 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by *Sugimura et al.* (U.S. Patent 6,076,165).

Claims 6-7, 16-17, 51, 54-56, 59, 71, 74-76 and 79 have been cancelled. Therefore, Applicant requests that these rejections be withdrawn.

II. SECTION 103 REJECTIONS – SUGIMURA ET AL.

Claims 57-58, 60, 77-78 and 80 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Sugimura et al.*

Claims 57-58, 60, 77-78 and 80 have been cancelled. Therefore, Applicant requests that these rejections be withdrawn.

III. SECTION 103 REJECTIONS – SUGIMURA ET AL. AND LANE

Claims 8-10, 18-20, 52-53 and 72-73 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Sugimura et al.* in view of *Lane* (U.S. Patent 6,031,960).

Claims 8-10, 18-20, 52-53 and 72-73 have been cancelled. Therefore, Applicant requests that these rejections be withdrawn.

IV. SECTION 103 REJECTIONS – SUGIMURA ET AL. AND KATO

Claims 36-37, 111 and 114-120 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Sugimura et al.* in view of *Kato* (U.S. Patent 6,404,711).

Claims 36-37, 111 and 114-120 have been cancelled. Therefore, Applicant requests that these rejections be withdrawn.

V. SECTION 103 REJECTIONS – SUGIMURA ET AL., KATO AND LANE

Claims 38-40 and 112-113 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Sugimura et al.* in view of *Kato and Lane*.

Claims 38-40 and 112-113 have been cancelled. Therefore, Applicant requests that these rejections be withdrawn.

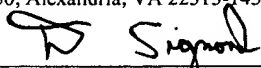
VI. OTHER AMENDMENTS

The Claims have been amended to improve clarity. No new matter has been added.

VII. CONCLUSION

In view of the amendments and remarks set forth herein, the application is believed to be in condition for allowance. Should any issues remain, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned attorney.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on June 17, 2004.

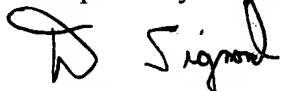


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Date of Signature

Respectfully submitted,



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